

From: Sallie Rueter, UBC
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/22/02 10:19pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Ron and Sallie Rueter
2113 108th Street S.E.
Everett, WA. 98208

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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The Microsoft Corporation and the Department of Justice have finally agreed to terms on a settlement that will put an end to the antitrust issue which has lasted for over three years. We are writing this letter so that we may go on record as supporting the settlement, and would also like to ask that it be implemented as soon as possible.

Enough is enough; this has gone on for too long. The government needs to shift their focus to more relevant and pressing issues such as divesting the Enron executives of the illegal proceeds from their insider stock sales prior to the demise of the company and requiring those funds replace the 401k and retirement fund monies their employees lost when they were barred from selling their stock. I guess it took a huge business failure like Enron and a recession to open-up some eyes in Washington.

We can't understand why Microsoft continues to be under fire, we do not see their competitors being subject to such treatment. Nor do we see their competitors doing much but whining and urging anyone they can get to listen to prolong the issue. Now AOL (was this part of the purchase agreement with Netscape?) has brought suit against Microsoft. That bandwagon is getting mighty crowded. Where are all of their donations to schools - apparently they spent all their money in Washington D.C.? Do you really think AOL has any consumers' interests in their plans? In addition we feel AOL, Sun Microsystems and the other competing businesses in all the hold-out states should also have technical oversight committees assigned to test their compliance with good business practices. The settlement is reasonable, even with the oversight committee, and the government should be satisfied and let Microsoft get back to their business.

The lawsuit is over, but their competitors are still trying to force the issue so Microsoft has to concede even more. It sounds like the agendas of the competitors should be questioned. I would ask that the Enron issues be examined as closely as Microsoft has been, but given Enron's level of political contributions, I'm sure that won't happen. Wouldn't it be nice if the people in Washington D.C. who could make a difference actually did?

Sincerely,

Ron and Sallie Rueter